

After Huge Sale in 2014 Can Lexington Hit the Jackpot Again?

By Bill Finley

LEXINGTON, KY - What do you do for an encore?

That seemed to be the question on everyone's mind yesterday at the Fasig-Tipton sales grounds as buyers, sellers and the sales staff were preparing for the opening night of the 2015 Lexington Selected yearling sale.



The Cancelliere Brothers inspect a yearling on the eve of the Lexington sale (photo by George Steele)

The 2014 sale was one of the most remarkable in the sports' history. Coming in, the Lexington team had felt that no bad news was good news, that the best they could expect was to be even over previous years or be up by a fraction. Then came 2014 when opening night was up 21.6 percent and the overall sale was up 10.6 percent. For the breeders and for the consignors, it was the best news they had had in years.

Now what?

"I think it will be difficult to keep it going, that's my personal opinion," said Dave Reid, who, along with Randy Manges, is the co-sales manager. "I think coming into last year the sale was flat year over year and we wound up having a pretty

good increase. This year I am going to predict the same thing, flat. If we were down a tick or two it wouldn't surprise me because last year was a historical year."

Adam Bowden of Diamond Creek Farm echoed Reid's feelings, but pointed out that a repeat of last year's figures would be nothing to sneeze at.

"I think it probably will be in line with last year, with similar numbers," he said. "I doubt it will be up, but that's not a bad thing. If you look at it that would mean two straight years that, when combined, showed a significant increase over the previous years. Everybody was ecstatic last year so there would be every reason to be excited if the sale equals last year."

Others are even more optimistic.

"I'd be disappointed if we were equal to last year," said Art Zubrod of Brittany Farms. "I'm very optimistic. I can just judge by what I have and I have a better consignment this year, plus I think the harness racing business is doing very well. The sire stakes programs are so good that people are willing to pay good money for these horses. I think we will be up substantially."

Whether or not that will happen will be easier to answer

(continued on next page)

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Hip# 58 Beach Pro
SOMEBEACHSOMEWHERE half brother to
ART PROFESSOR p,4,1:47.4 (\$616,863).



Hip# 46
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WELL SAID
half brother to
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p,3,1:46.4 (\$3,221,299).



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Hip# 88
Beach Boogie

SOMEBEACHSOMEWHERE
colt, first foal from
DANCE UNTIL DAWN
p,3,1:52.1 (\$192,483),
half sister to MAJOR DOMO
p,3,1:53.3f (\$339,853).

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when the last horse is sold tonight. The cream of the crop will sell tonight during a session that includes one well bred horse after another, many of them by super sires like Muscle Hill and Somebeachsomewhere.

There are 109 listed in the catalogue, a number that will be reduced by a freakish run of bad luck by two major consignors. Both Allerage Farms and Vieux Carre Farms have had to pull all of their horses out of the sale because of unrelated health issues among their yearlings.

"We've had some setbacks with the outs," Reid noted. "It was bad timing but with those consignors it was the right thing to do. It is unfortunate but they did the responsible thing. You cannot take chances to risk the health of any horse in the sales. Both Allerage and Vieux Carre are good consignors and I feel bad for them."

Another factor that will be watched closely is what foreign buyers will do considering the weakness of other currencies vis-a-vis the U.S. dollar. In particular, the Canadian dollar is near the bottom when compared to the U.S. dollars, so the Canadians will have to pay a premium for horses.

"The strength of the dollar and the weakness of the Canadian dollar will have an impact," Reid said. "How you measure it, I don't know. Twenty-one percent of the gross



The next in the line of horsemen from the Antonacci family, young Frank was helping his father and grandfather out at the sales yesterday (photo by Pedro Morales)

spent last year was spent by Canadians. Some of those Canadians do have American money. They have been racing in the states. But overall this has to be a net negative, I just don't know how to measure it."

Jimmy Takter, who is aligned with many European buyers, said the Swedish Krona and the Euro are also way down when compared to the U.S. dollar, but he didn't think that would impact his clients.

"The people I am involved with from Europe are very wealthy," he said. "So I don't think this will be a big deal to them. Maybe it will be for some smaller, average buyers.



But would they buy a trotter?

The Euro is almost even to the dollar and the Swedish Krona, a year ago was seven to the dollar and now it is 8.50. That's a big difference."

Who will fetch the biggest price tonight? No one seems quite sure but there are several candidates. Based on their pedigree pages, horses to watch include: Hip

11, a Credit Winner colt who is a full brother to Archangel; Hip 19, who is by Somebeachsomewhere and is the first

(continued on next page)

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Hip # 104 - Mountain Of Love

By **MUSCLE HILL**, first living colt from the multiple
stakes winning mare

SOMEBODY TO LOVE 2,1:57.1; 3,1:56f (\$618,686).

Second Dam *Breeders Crown*

winner **PICK ME UP** 2,1:57.1 (\$380,050).



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foal from Idyllic; Hip 21, a half-brother to Father Patrick who is by Muscle Hill; Hip 46, a half-brother to Somebeachsomewhere who is by Well Said; Hip 70, a Somebeachsomewhere colt out of the dam that produced the lightning fast Hurricane Kingcole. | [share this story](#) |

What They're Saying at the Sales:



HRU combed the sales grounds yesterday morning to get the thoughts and opinions from some of the key people who will be involved in this year's Lexington Selected yearling sale:

Bob Marks: "I think the sale will be excellent. Opening night is almost reminiscent of the way it used to be in the eighties. I think we will duplicate what happened last year on opening night. We'll know a lot more when we see who's looking and how much they are looking. Last year was maybe the best night for a sale in 30 years. Will it be equal to that? That might be hard, but I think it will be very good."



Bob Marks pals around with the king of horse insurance, Tom Cunningham
(photo by Black Jack Lanza)

"At this stage of the game it's a matter of do the individuals match the page? There's a Muscle Hill brother to Father Patrick that, conceivably, could bring anything. There are a couple of other horses that if people are happy with the individuals they will bring a lot of money."

"I would definitely be looking at last crop of Rocknroll Hanover only because I have a sneaking suspicion there will be one more great one by him. The question is are we good enough to find the one? There's one that I saw that I really like a lot (Hip 188). He's in the Blue Chip consignment. Everyone knows I like him."

Adam Bowden (Diamond Creek Farm): "Hip No. 2, Geometry (the second foal out of See You At Peelers), she's a different type of filly (than sister Ivy League). She is a smaller version of her sister. She maybe resembles the mare and Bettor's Delight more than (her sire) Somebeachsomewhere. I don't think she's a bell ringer like Ivy League was. I think she's a solid



Adam Bowden

filly but if I have to find a fault in her it's that she's on the small side."

"The one I am really excited about is the Credit Winner (Hip 11) I have that is full brother to Archangel. He might be the best horse I have had in at least the last five years."

(continued on next page)

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Dave Reid (Preferred Equine) I have a very solid group. We have Muscle Hills, Somebeachsomewheres, Cantab Halls, a really well balanced group. I am strongest and deepest in trotting fillies. That doesn't mean I don't have good trotting colts or pacers. It's just that I have outstanding trotting fillies.

"Anyone who has Muscle Hills has to be optimistic. Right now he has proven to be a very hot sire. His offspring have been very successful, they have speed and they keep winning the major races."

Casie Coleman: For me, looking at the situation with the dollar in Canada and what will happen with the Ontario bred here I am obviously hoping the cheaper the better. I am hoping some of the Canadian buyers won't show up so we can get a few at good prices. There are definitely some I like.



Casie Coleman

"Our dollar is at 72 percent of the US dollar, and that sucks. The Canadian sale was up by huge numbers and I have never seen so many people at the sale there. I don't know if that means they don't plan to come to Lexington and Harrisburg because of the dollar. We're paying an extra 30 percent on almost everything we buy. That's a problem, but saying that, our Ontario program is so good right now. I think the Ontario sire stakes program is the best there is."

"I hope the Ontario bred here will be bargains, but every year I think that and they usually sell for sky high prices. People are going to want them because they race for good money and there are not a lot of them this year. It's going to be interesting. I have no idea which way it's going to go."

Michelle Crawford (Crawford Farms) "We've had some bad luck but even so I am very optimistic about this sale."

"We lost, due to some unfortunate circumstances, what I think would have been out three sales toppers, but we're here with 15 that I think will do well. We had Crazy Wow's brother, an absolute Adonis, and he had a hock injury when they removed his OCDs. He's home in the pasture. One of our others colts, his ankle blew up and we had to withdraw him. Then Hip No. 35, Sutton's sister, died in her stall. She just dropped dead and they think she might have fallen over on her back. I was just talking to Jeff Gural so I guess it could be worse. He's not showing up at all."

"But I am still very happy with our group. We have a lot of nice horses and they are all showing very well. For us, we will be back next year with a bigger and even more impressive consignment."

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THE 2015 WINBAK FARM YEARLINGS

10/5-10/9 LEXINGTON Day 1 Sale Lineup

Pacers

#18, TAILORED TO FIT, C, PA, First Foal

Bettor's Delight-Ideal Observation-Western Ideal
First foal from Donna Dunn Memorial Winner,
Ideal Observation, p, 1:53.3f (\$122,181), a 1/2-sister to
Handsoffmycookie, p, 1:51.3f (\$1,383,395). Family of
Armbo Deuce, p, 3, 1:50.2h (\$757,230)

#27, STAGE REVIEW, F, NY

Art Major-Observe Me-Cambest
Full-sister to NYSS Final & Lismore Winner,
Handsoffmycookie, p, 1:51.3f (\$1,383,395).
Family of **Armbo Deuce**, p, 3, 1:50.2h (\$757,230)

#56, TUXEDO BAY, C, PA, First Foal

Somebeachsomewhere-Spring Break-Dream Away
First foal from Lou Babic Memorial Winner,
Spring Break, p, 3, 1:50.3z (\$787,057). Family of
Even Odds, p, 2, 1:53.4 (\$976,683)

#92, BEACH CLUB, F, PA

Somebeachsomewhere-Sand Speed-Matt's Scooter
1/2-sister to Champlain Winner, **Speed Again**,
p, 1:48.1s (\$858,493) & Reynolds Memorial Winner,
Reckless Ric, p, 1:49.1f (\$298,897)

#105, PASSPORT TO ART, C, NY

Art Major-Western City-Western Hanover
1/2-brother to 4 \$100,000+ Winners including
Terlingua, p, 3, 1:52f (\$228,507). Family of
Captaintreacherous, p, 3, 1:47.1 (\$3,147,545) &
Worldly Beauty, p, 1:49.3 (\$1,900,255)

Trotters

#40, JULIEANN B, F, PA

Cantab Hall-Yankee Blondie-American Winner
1/2-sister to Horse of the Year & Hambletonian Winner,
Muscle Hill, 3, 1:50.1 (\$3,266,835)

#71, LOVELY LYNNLY, F, NY, First Foal

Credit Winner-Fitness Girl-Muscles Yankee
First foal from Matron Winner, **Fitness Girl**,
2, 1:56s (\$246,302). Family of **Like A Prayer**,
3, 1:52.2 (\$1,118,504)

For complete sale lineup, visit www.winbakfarm.com.



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HABITAT 3,1:53f-'15 (\$1,104,841)

Selling at the Lexington Selected Yearling Sale October 5 - 9

COLTS

Hip 149 ONLY PASSING THRU NJ

Muscle Hill-Oasis Dream-Cantab Hall

First foal from multiple stakes winner **OASIS DREAM** 3,1:53.4 (\$221,961), full sister to stakes winner **FLY ANGEL FLY** 2,1:56.3f (\$55,144). Second dam is stakes winner **DREAM ANGEL** 3,1:56.2 (\$229,010), half-sister to World Champion **DREAM VACATION** 4,1:52 (\$616,257) and to the dams of World Champion & 2015 Hambletonian Oaks winner **WILD HONEY** 3,1:52.2-'15 (\$1,013,488) and **STRUCK BY LINDY** 2,1:53.1 (\$514,765).

Hip 493 AMANFORALLSEASONS ON *Manofmanymissions-Possess Me-Self Possessed*

Half-brother to Put On The Day 2,2:00.3f (\$29,075). Second living foal from stakes placed **POSSESS ME** 3,1:55.2 (\$54,614), half-sister to **PERFECT TEN** 3,1:58.1f (\$31,491) and Sunandstar 2,2:06.4h-'15 (\$5,075).

FILLIES

Hip 97 BRAND NEW KEY PA

Cantab Hall-Bar Slide-Yankee Glide

Half-brother to multiple stakes winner, 3rd in the 2015 Hambletonian Oaks & PASS Final runner-up **BRIGHT BABY BLUES** 2,1:55f (\$334,828) and 2YO stakes winner **SLIDING HOME** 2,1:57.1f-'15 (\$58,020). Third foal from Hambletonian Oaks winner and 100% producer **BAR SLIDE** 3,1:52.4 (\$647,971), half-sister to multiple stakes winner **MODEL BEHAVIOR** 3,1:53.2-'15 (\$96,754) and **Tech Titan** 2,Q1:59.2-'15 (\$1,500). Second dam is stakes winner **MARLA BAR** 3,1:56.2h (\$240,637), half-sister to the dam of multiple stakes winner **CLASSIC MARTINE** 4,1:51.1 (\$1,070,519).

Hip 69 E L LAPPONIA NJ

Muscle Hill-E L Glamour-Yankee Glide

Second foal (oldest now 2) from **E L GLAMOUR** 3,1:58f (\$16,717), full sister to multiple stakes winner **ULTIMATE CAMERON** 3,1:53.3 (\$794,217) and **GRAND CAMERON** 3,1:57.2f (\$52,818-dam of 2YO stakes winner **GRAND CANYON** 2,1:58.1f-'15-\$16,768). Second dam is **CAMERON HALL** 4,1:53.4 (\$1,816,236), full sister to **CANLAND HALL** 3,1:57 (\$339,143-dam of leading trotting sire **CANTAB HALL** 3,1:54-\$1,442,303) and **COURTNEY HALL** 3,1:55.4 (\$118,986-dam of **E L TITAN** 4,1:51.2f-'15-\$648,276).

Hip 87 DREAM TOGETHER NJ

Muscle Hill-Danae-Andover Hall

Full or half-sister to World Champion **D'ORSAY** 4,1:51.4 (\$445,732), **PROPULSION** 4,1:52.1-'15 (\$86,178) and **DEJA VU TOO** 2,1:55.1 (\$73,868). From Hambletonian Oaks winner **DANAE** 3,1:54.2 (\$529,099), half-sister to **TASTY CHIP** 3,1:55.1 (\$153,080-dam of **GURF** 1:54.3f-\$494,877).

Hip 391 BROWN EYES BLUE NY

Credit Winner-Baby I'm Bad News-Yankee Glide

Half-sister to Baby's Baby r.t. 2,1:59.4f-'15 (\$2,000). Second foal from stakes winner **BABY I'M BAD NEWS** 2,1:57.2 (\$33,430). From the immediate family of **CASH HALL** T1:51.1h (\$554,298), **CAPTOWN HALL** 2,1:56.1f (\$369,518) and **CARTIER HALL** 4,1:54.3 (\$363,106).

Hip 407 CAPTIVATING SPIRIT NJ

Muscle Hill-Catch A Train-Donerail

Half-sister to stakes winner **COPY CATCH** 3,1:56f (\$194,757), **YOU'RE CATCHING ON** 3,1:56.3f (\$43,540) and **AMAZON CLIPPER** 2,1:58 (\$66,391). From a half-sister to World Champion and multiple sub-1:55 producer **MONI MAKER** 1:52.1 (\$5,589,256).

Hip 494 PAINT BY NUMBERS PA *Yankee Glide-Powell Blue Chip-Andover Hall*

First foal from multiple stakes placed **POWELL BLUE CHIP** 3,1:55.2f (\$50,085), half-sister to **ACDC BLUE CHIP** 1:58h (\$106,094) and **THOR BLUE CHIP** 4,1:57.1f (\$48,367). Second dam is a half-sister to **ECHO HANOVER** 3,1:56 (\$304,538), **CAKE RATTLE N ROLL** 4,1:55.3 (\$220,475) and the dam of **PIZZA DOLCE** 3,1:52.4 (\$668,824), **MARS BAR** 3,1:56 (\$390,176) and **BIG STICK LINDY** 3,1:55.4 (\$236,176).

Hip 527 TUMBLING DICE PA

Yankee Glide-Timelesswinner Two-Broadway Hall

Half-sister to And A Piece 2,Q2:01.3-'15. From multiple stakes winner **TIMELESSWINNER TWO** 3,1:54.4f (\$209,699), full sister to the dam of multiple stakes winner **TOUR HALL** 3,1:55.2 (\$141,301). Second dam is a full or half-sister to **BIBA BI** 3,1:58.2 (\$251,402) and **ETERNAL GODDESS** 3,1:59.3 (\$145,347).

Yearling videos will be available on our website in mid-September

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CANE RUN
FARM

Art Zubrod (Brittany Farms) "We have three the first night and they are really top flight horses. They include two Muscle Hills and a Credit Winner filly that is absolutely gorgeous. I don't want to give you a figure but I think we will ring some chimes with those guys."



Art Zubrod

"After that we've got 10 or 12 a night, all top pedigrees, and for the most part, all good individuals. I don't mind not having some of those horses on the first night. I want to sell my horses where they fit. Absolutely, I'd rather be a stand out on nights two, three, four, five, the big fish in the little pond. I think we were the first one to sell one for over \$100,000 on the last night. It was a Speedy Somali colt several years ago for \$120,000. I want to sell my horses where they belong, not with some perception where someone else may think they need to be."



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CHAPTER SEVEN

15

Olympic
Blue Chip



Grossman, Blue Chip High on Chapter Sevens



**Chapter Seven is the most
exciting new sire in the
Lexington sale**

Among stallions, the new kid on the block at this year's Lexington sale is Chapter Seven, a terrific trotter that will be represented at this sale by his first crop. There are 29 Chapter Sevens in the catalogue.

Chapter Seven stands in

(continued on next page)

Don't miss this HURRICANE!

Hip #70, Hurricane Beach,
the Somebeachsomewhere brother
to lightning fast Hurrikane Kingcole!

Inspect him and seven other future
All American Performers at **Barn 13**.

Hurrikane Kingcole



photo: Lisa Photo



New York at Blue Chip Farms and Blue Chip head Tom Grossman is confident that when this group hits the racetrack in 2016 they are going to make their daddy proud.

"We're very happy with them," Grossman said. "I will say none of them are stunning to look at in the stall. But all of them have exceptional videos and athleticism in the field. They are correct. They are not very big, but they're not too small. They may not be inspiring pictures visibly, but I am very happy with the way they move in the field and with their videos.

"Were it not for how good the New York program is it might be hard for someone to pay a sale-topping price for one of them based solely on their looks. But they will have a chance to go out and prove they are as every bit as athletic and talented as I think they are. I think I am going to be rewarded more for having faith in him and breeding to him when it comes to later crops because people are going to be wowed by how well these horses race. Based on the videos and how they way they get around the field I am going to get really rewarded in the years ahead.

"At Blue Chip, we have really supported him. I bought a Chapter Seven filly at the Goshen sale that I liked a lot and want to race and then add to our broodmare band."

Harness Horsemen Help Breast Cancer Survivor Raise

By Perry Lefko

Thanks in part to the generous support of North American harness horsemen, a total of \$7,330.60 has been raised for the Canadian Breast Cancer Foundation.

The horsemen pledged their financial support for Maria Sorella, who owns horses with her husband, Louie, in the Toronto area. Maria, who was genetically predisposed to breast cancer, was diagnosed with the disease last fall. Louie went on Facebook after his wife's diagnosis seeking to raise money for the annual Canadian Breast Cancer Foundation's CIBC Run For The Cure. Maria planned to take part in the 2015 event, which takes place throughout Canada, in Windsor, Ontario in front of family and friends. Louie had been hoping to raise \$5,000, but harness horsemen who know the Sorellas because they own horses and regularly attend races at Mohawk Racetrack, gave generously when they heard about Maria's illness.

"We broke the goal and we did fantastic," Louie told Harness Racing Update on Sunday after Maria took part in the event. "You couldn't ask for a better day."

Maria received a bracelet from the Foundation for the money she raised, second best among all individuals who participated in the Windsor event. Her team, To The Moon, included the mother of Rachel Oenema, who trains for Sorella, and the Sorella's niece, both of whom are breast cancer survivors.

"The biggest accomplishment is that you're there and you were able to do it," Louie said speaking of the cancer survivors. "The touching thing was they asked all breast cancer survivors to come on stage. It was a tear jerker when you saw it. You just stop and think and things race through your head - these are the ones who were able to

make it, but there were others who didn't survive."

Maria's 11-year-old godchild contributed \$5.60.

Among the horsemen who pledged their support was Joe Bellino, who gave \$1,000 when he read about Louie's online initiative. He also gave Louie a horse for free to give to Rachel, who is apprenticing to become a fully-licensed trainer. It was precipitated by the fact Louie had met Rachel last fall and later sold her a cheap claimer, Catch A Lucky Star, and gave her several months to pay. Rachel pledged to donate a percentage of her earnings to the drive through money won by the horse. Rachel took nine months to get the horse back to the races following a foot injury and it was claimed in its first start in a \$4,000 claimer. When Louie saw on Facebook Joe advertising two horses for sale, he contacted him and expressed an interest in They Call Me Gordy, a four-year-old gelded pacer who had won more than \$50,000 and was racing in the \$10,000 claiming ranks in Ohio. When Louie indicated the horse might be out of his price range, Bellino told him he could have the horse for free. Louie couldn't believe Joe's generosity.

They Call Me Gordy won his first start for Rachel in a \$3,000 condition race at Leamington Raceway, a B track in southwestern Ontario, on September 20.

Joe is planning to possibly give Rachel more horses in the future to help her in her career.

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American Jewel_{p,3,1:48.2 (\$1,840,565)}

By American Ideal, established or equalled four World Records and retired as the fastest 3-year-old pacing filly in history. She was Canada's O'Brien Award winner at 2, and swept both the Dan Patch & O'Brien Awards at 3.



AMERICAN JEWEL American Ideal-Trim Hanover-Camluck

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AMERICAN IDEAL

R. Gauwitz Hanover Wins Again and Gets Claimed Again

R. Gauwitz Hanover continued his consecutive win streak and consecutive claim streak in and after a race Sunday at Harrah's Philadelphia.

Driven as usual by George Napolitano Jr., the six-year-old gelding named after Ralph Gauwitz, a 75-year-old longtime harness racing fan who is disabled and living in a nursing home in Illinois, won by four lengths in a \$25,000 claiming race. He went postward at 1-10.

He was claimed afterward for the 12th consecutive time, this time by trainer Rene Allard, who beat out six others in the "shake." Allard had claimed the horse once already during the streak.

Marty Fine, who had claimed the horse twice before, had been one of the seven who put in a claim for the gelding.

"It's unbelievable, 12 in a row," Fine told Harness Racing Update.

Champagnesupernova holds the record for consecutive claims with 13, which happened during the 2003 racing at The Meadows.

R. Gauwitz Hanover had been tied in second going into the race with Automatic Teller, who had been claimed 11 consecutive times at Harrah's Philadelphia and Mohegan Sun at Pocono.

Landmark Racing Stable Has A Formula For Buying Yearlings

By Perry Lefko

The Landmark Racing Stable, which offers fractional ownership in horses, is hoping to possibly buy into a yearling at the Lexington Selected Sale that is the quality of a Harper Blue Chip, a Canadian champion last year who is about to make his return to the races following a long layoff.

Landmark, based out of Kingston, Ontario, was initiated by Canadian horseman Howard Pearce, who developed the idea of combining owners that buy anywhere from 25-50% of a yearling after it has been purchased by trainer Mark Steacy.

The idea started because of a Standardbred Breeders of Ontario Association Mentorship Program that puts together new owners with a trainer and a person familiar with owning horses. Steacy, who is a longtime friend of Pearce's, had been chosen to be the trainer for one of the groups, which requires 10 individuals (including the trainer and mentor) to pay a onetime \$5,000 fee that goes toward the purchase of the horse, its training bills and stakes payments through to the end of the three-year-old season. After that, the horse is sold and the group dissolved. Once an individual has been part of the program, they are no longer eligible to participate in it.

But some owners have enjoyed the experience so much they have joined together to form groups of their own with the same time of model. This was the case nine years ago with Landmark, which had about a handful of the 10 members from the SBOA group join together in a new group. That expanded to 19 individuals, each of whom paid

\$5,000. So far, Landmark has had eight groups and is putting together a ninth edition.

"We've had a lot of repeat people," Pearce said. "I've had people that have been in every Landmark Stable. I've had people be in and then not be in and back in again. This year I've got about seven new people that have heard about it or read about it. It just sort of spread."

Landmark, which only buys yearlings and generally sells them by the end of their three-year-old season similar to the SBOA program, has averaged about five purchases with each group.

Harper Blue Chip is by far the best one of the bunch. Purchased three years ago at the Harrisburg Sale for \$40,000, he has earned \$893,912 in his career, the majority of it last year when he won six of 15 races, including a \$250,000 Ontario Sires Stakes Gold Super Final and banked just shy of \$700,000. He finished a distant third in the Hambletonian and finished out the season with a fourth-place finish in the Breeders Crown for his division.

He developed an injury in the race and it scuttled a sale to a purchaser, who made the deal conditional on the horse passing a physical.

Harper Blue Chip was voted Canada's champion three-year-old male trotter at the end of the season, beating out Hambletonian winner Trixton.

"He was a thrill of a lifetime, particularly finishing third in the Hambo," Pearce said. "He won (the OSS final), won the O'Brien Award, you can't get much better than that."

It was particularly good for George Judson, an octogenarian who had been a longtime client of Steacy's. Judson, who owned and operated a funeral business, had been struggling in the sport with little success and had been ready to leave the business. Late in the horse's two-year-old year, Steacy, who had a 25% ownership interest in Harper Blue Chip, approached Judson asking if he wanted to buy his share.

Judson became an owner of the horse with David R. McDonald of Cornwall, David R. Reid of Glenburnie and the Landmark 6 Racing Stable. Harper Blue Chip finished second to Father Patrick in the \$365,000 William Wellwood in Judson's first start as one of the owners. The colt went on to win a \$70,000 OSS race in his next start. It would get even better in the horse's three-year-old season.

"Those were wonderful experiences. I really enjoyed it," Judson recalled earlier this year heading into the O'Brien Awards. "Was it a horse of a lifetime? Definitely."

"Fortunately the horse went on and turned out even better than we both thought," Steacy said at the time. "Sometimes there a lot more important things than money, and this is an instant of that. Whether you have money or not, it doesn't guarantee that you're going to get a good horse like this. He probably never thought he was going to get a horse like this. He probably thought he missed his chance, but he didn't. He hit the home run."

The ownership group took a vote and decided to keep the horse after the failed sale.

"The four-year-old year didn't turn out quite as good as we'd hoped, but it looks like he's almost ready," Pearce

(continued on next page)

STEINER

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LEXINGTON SELECTED SALE October 5-9, 2015

COLTS

Hip 142 Lima Music Man, blkc 4/29/14

Credit Winner-Motherland

Second foal and first colt from MOTHERLAND 4,1:55.4f (\$172,635), half-sister to WORLD PREMIERE 3,1:57 (\$105,768) and WOULDN'T ITBESWEET 3,1:55.2f-'15 (\$107,559) and to the dam of HURIKANEBIGGEORGE 4,1:55.1h (\$589,380).

Hip 174 Lima Spartan, bc 2/17/14

Art Major-Silk Purse

First foal from SILK PURSE p,3,1:53.2 (\$112,336), full or half-sister to MALICIOUS p,4,1:50.1f (\$789,479), BEACH BODY p,3,1:52f (\$358,345), MS MALICIOUS p,3,1:51.4f (\$351,963-dam of stakes placed JK Isn'tshelovely r.t. p,2,1:54.4f-'15-\$9,000) and BODACIOUS p,3,1:51.1f-'15 (\$54,140).

Hip 215 Lima Avatar, bc 2/10/14

American Ideal-Arts Fantasy

Three-quarter or half-brother to SOME KINDA BEACH p,4,1:50 (\$208,410), GRANDPA DON p,3,1:55.4h (\$73,108) and STOVER p,3,1:50.4f-'15 (\$41,936). From 100% producer ART'S FANTASY p,3,1:51.2f (\$223,803).

Hip 236 Lima Commando, bc 1/20/14

Rocknroll Hanover-Cold Mist

Full brother to Lima C Me Rock p,2,Q2:02.1f-'15 (\$2,587). Second foal from multiple stakes winner COLD MIST p,3,1:52.1f (\$357,6313).

Hip 323 Lima Nitro, bc 3/24/14

Chapter Seven-No Pictures Please

Half-brother to MALALA 3,1:59f-'15 (\$38,389). Second foal and first colt from a full sister to Hambletonian winner VIVID PHOTO 4,1:50.2 (\$3,273,387) and stakes winner BROKEN RECORD 3,1:57h-'15 (\$119,992).

Hip 367 Lima Venture, brc 4/24/14

Rocknroll Hanover-Vanity Fairest

Half-brother to Lima Valiant r.t. p,2,2:03f-'15 (\$2,712). Second foal from VANITY FAIREST p,3,1:53.2 (\$76,725), half-sister to BIG BAD JOHN p,3,1:49 (\$1,000,559), WESTERN ARTWORK p,1:51f (\$279,521), I'M NOT GONNA LIE p,4,1:52.1f (\$254,795) and TIZ A MASTERPIECE p,3,1:49 (\$224,209).

Hip 467 Lima Moonshine, bc 4/7/14

Cantab Hall-Meconopsis

First by Cantab Hall from MECONOPSIS 3,1:55.4 (\$103,512), half-sister to FILLY AT BIGS 3,1:54 (\$655,773-dam of BIG RIGS 4,1:52.1f-\$662,826).

Hip 488 Lima Patriot, bc 2/25/14

Chapter Seven-Pinery

Half-brother to PLAYFUL CREDIT 2,1:59 (\$38,981) and LIMA PIZZAZ 3,1:56.4-'15 (\$7,983). First colt from PINERY 2,1:58 (\$129,424), three-quarter sister to Breeders Crown winner CEDAR DOVE 4,1:52.3 (\$1,178,930).

Hip 578 Lima Domino, bc 1/28/14

Well Said-Desirable Cindy

From stakes winner DESIRABLE CINDY p,3,1:52.3 (\$171,664), half-sister to World Champion JENNA'S BEACH BOY p,4,1:47.3 (\$1,972,172), DUCA p,1:51.2f (\$337,550), FRIDAY AT FIVE p,3,1:50f (\$220,652) and the dam of ATOCHIA p,1:49f-\$1,796,022).

FILLIES

Hip 19 Lima Incredible, bf 3/30/14

Somebeachsomewhere-Idyllic

First foal from multiple stakes winner IDYLLIC p,3,1:50f (\$1,296,967), half-sister to DREAM OF WINNING p,3,1:51.1f (\$288,328) and to the dam of SOMESTARSOMEWHERE p,2,1:49.2 (\$319,093).

Hip 47 Lima Fabulous, bf 1/25/14

Somebeachsomewhere-Fox Valley Topaz

First living foal from multiple stakes winner FOX VALLEY TOPAZ p,3,1:51.4 (\$823,581), full or half-sister to FOX VALLEY APPEAL p,3,1:50 (\$296,477), SNUFF BOX p,4,1:52.3 (\$239,642), FOX VALLEY ESCORT p,3,1:53.4 (\$106,227) and FOX VALLEYTIRAMISU p,2,1:56.3-'15 (\$3,650).

Hip 106 Lima Oh So Sweet, bf 1/25/14

Credit Winner-Oh Sweet Baby

First foal from multiple stakes winner OH SWEET BABY 4,1:54.4 (\$655,089), half-sister to JETTALADY 3,1:56.4f (\$105,906) and from the family of LEAR JETTA 3,1:54.1f (\$469,410).

Hip 501 Lima Riverdance, bf 2/28/14

American Ideal-Riverbank Hanover

Half-sister to LIMA REVENUE p,3,Q1:56f-'15 (\$9,876). From stakes winner RIVERBANK HANOVER p,1:50.4 (\$239,035).

Hip 564 Lima On The Move, bf 3/12/14

Rock N Roll Heaven-Odds On Beth

Half-sister to MILITIA MAN p,1:52.2f-'15 (\$124,636), B STERN p,2,1:50.4 (\$79,318), HIDEAWAY BEACH p,3,1:54.4f (\$47,370) and stakes placed McCrae r.t. p,2,1:59.3f-'15 (\$4,408). From 100% producer ODDS ON BETH p,4,1:52.2 (\$159,237).

Hip 599 Lima Illusion, bf 4/7/14

Bettor's Delight-I Kill Time

First foal from stakes winner I KILL TIME p,4,1:52.2 (\$240,968), full or half-sister to 7 in 1:53, including E Z NOAH p,1:49.2f-'15 (\$508,939), PHILOSOPHER KING p,3,1:52.1 (\$386,141), WAFFLES AND CREAM p,1:51 (\$340,962) and ROYALTYHASARRIVED p,3,1:52.2f-'15 (\$78,997). Second dam is HER MATTJESTY p,2,1:54.1 (\$391,889), full sister to ROYAL MATTJESTY p,1:48.4 (\$1,652,730) and HIS MATTJESTY p,3,1:51 (\$1,038,861).

OHIO SELECTED JUG SALE September 19, 2015

COLTS

Hip 59 Lima Nemesis, bc 3/4/14

Big Bad John-Nassau Loop

Half-brother to FOREVER LUCKY p,3,1:55.4h (\$69,742), NOT SO FORGIVING p,4,1:52.3f (\$47,519) and ISLAND CELEBRATION p,3,1:53.1f (\$47,408). From NASSAU LOOP p,3,1:53.4f (\$46,325).

Hip 100 Lima Raider, bc 3/3/14

McArdle-Rose Parade

Half-brother to REALLY SHOWING OFF p,1:51.4f (\$161,476), ONLY IN AMERICA p,1:52.3f (\$63,291) and DRAGONMYHEARTAROUN p,3,1:53.3 (\$19,038).

Hip 210 Lima Be All Ucanbe, bc 2/25/14

Dejarmbro-Blue And Blue

Half-brother to SCOTTISH BLUE 4,1:57h (\$77,613). From a half-sister to multiple stakes winner BLACKTUXWHITESOCKS 1:53.1 (\$962,895).

Selling as Agent

Hip 190 Big Daniel Reed, bc 3/10/14

Big Bad John-Hurricane Cleo

Half-brother to CYCLONE p,2,Q1:55.4 (\$12,440). From a full sister to UPFRONT HANNAHSBOY p,3,1:49.2f (\$331,829). From the family of SHADY DAISY p,3,1:51 (\$1,807,755).

FILLY

Hip 89 Lima Risque, bf 4/23/14

Dejarmbro-Lima Radiant

From the first crop by Dejarmbro and from the family of SPEEDY SOMOLLI 3,1:55 (\$427,550) and INSOMNIAC 2,1:56.4 (\$132,419).

Videos are available at
www.steinerstockfarm.com



said.

The Landmark 8 group is looking forward to watching Nocturnal Blue Chip race this Saturday night at Woodbine in an OSS Gold Super Final for two-year-old male colts. The \$97,000 Harrisburg Yearling Purchase has won two of six starts and earned \$106,201.

A couple years ago, Landmark lowered the fee to join one of its groups from \$5,000 to \$2,000. It has expanded its members and has increased the budget.

"That's our objective - build to buy something that's really good, which is really difficult," Pearce said.

One of Landmark's previously-owned horses is R. Gauwitz Hanover, who developed soundness issues in his sophomore season following a promising juvenile season. He was sold after his three-year-old year, and has been making news in recent weeks by winning races and getting claimed. He has been claimed 12 times in succession. For Pearce and everyone in the Landmark Racing Stable that was affiliated with the colt, who was purchased for \$30,000 as a yearling, it's fun to see one of their former horses still active and doing well.

Takter Raving About Miki

A day after Always B Miki made a successful return to the races after undergoing surgery to repair a broken hind leg,



Jimmy Takter is very, very, very high on Always B Miki

trainer-driver Jimmy Takter was still very pumped about his horse. Takter said he felt that not only was Always B Miki among the best horse he has ever trained but among the best horses to ever walk this planet.

With Takter driving, Miki made his 2015 debut in a \$20,000 Indiana-bred race at Hoosier Saturday, winning by 5 1/4 lengths in 1:49.

"He was good, very good, Takter said. "Like any horse they have to race themselves a little bit to get into perfect muscle shape, but it is scary how well he is doing. The Breeders Crown is our goal. I don't know what we will do in between. We have a couple of options. He's tight enough and I think he can go forward off this race. Hopefully, I will get one more race into him before the Breeders Crown, but I don't have to. He had two fast qualifiers and then this race.

"I think he's one of the best horses that ever lived. I've been around a lot of champions and he is a real one. Saturday night, it was 48 degrees, windy and cold. He won under wraps in 1:49 and I never pulled the plugs."

HRU Race Criteria

The race results contained in Harness Racing Update: North American races with a purse value of \$20,000 and over and American-bred and sired winners of significant races abroad. Stakes races with a purse value of \$60,000 and over are previewed in HRU.

Walmann: I Don't Know Why Magic Tonight is Struggling

Trainer Roger Walmann is hoping for the best when Elitlopp winnet Magic Tonight goes in the Allerage Farms Trot this weekend at the Red Mile, but he admits he is perplexed by the horse's poor showing in the U.S. The horse has failed to hit the board in three tries in the U.S.



Trainer Roger Walmann

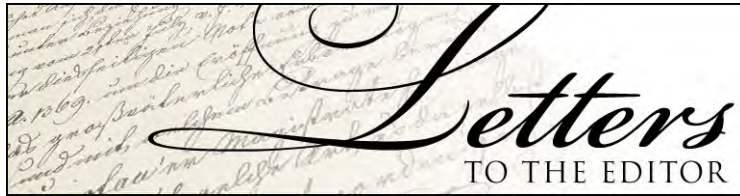
"He just is not the same horse over here that he was in Sweden," Walmann said. "I have no answer for it. No, that is difficult to think (that he will return to top form at The Red Mile). From the beginning since he was here he hasn't been the same horse he was when he won the Elitlopp.

"He has been easier to take care of lately and the groom is happy with him. He may be a little bit better in this race. And the way he qualified Friday (in 1:55.4 at the Red Mile) was a little bit better, I hope his form will improve so he can go to the Breeders Crown,. We'll see what happens Saturday."

HAVE SOMETHING TO GET OFF YOUR CHEST?

Send a Letter to the Editor of Harness Racing Update at: editor@harnessracingupdate.com

An advertisement for Greg Schuler Interactive. The top half features a photograph of a horse and jockey in mid-race, with the text "That little extra shine" overlaid in a large, stylized font. Below the photo, there is a block of text: "is what we try to put on your advertising and promotions. We thank our clients — every one a friend — and hope you have a great sale this week!". At the bottom, there is a logo consisting of a yellow diamond with the letters "GS" inside, and a yellow banner with the text "GREG SCHULER INTERACTIVE".



C'mon Ray, Get Real

It was with great interest that I read your article about Ray Schnittker's proposed rule change that would eliminate the need for a horse to qualify after missing 30 days of racing. Mr. Schnittker was quoted as stating, "bettors are savvy enough that they can figure out for themselves whether or not a horse is ready for a top effort, with or without a qualifier." I wonder how we, the bettors, could do that. Then again, according to Mr. Schnittker's proclamation at the last televised USTA conference, we bettors are idiots. Or did he call us, stupid? You will have to pull up the recording and check his exact words. I wouldn't want to misquote him.

As for this idiot bettor, qualifying races for horses out 30 days or more is one of the main reasons why we prefer betting harness races over thoroughbred races. You can find me and the other idiot bettors who take handicapping seriously at qualifying races whenever possible because we think it is very important. (Kudos to the Meadowlands for making their qualifiers available at their website.) Crazy as it may seem, we qualifying watchers believe that we can evaluate 1:58 qualifying horses who are ready to go 1:50. However, there is absolutely no way to know how to evaluate horses that have no lines after missing more than a month of racing. In fact, I usually stay away from tracks that are lax on the 30-day rule at the beginning of a new meet.

Of one thing you can be sure. If I have to handicap races where entrants will have up to 120 day layoffs as Mr. Schnittker proposes, my gambling dollars will move permanently away from harness racing to daily sports betting (which has somehow become legal and mind-blowing popular), thoroughbred racing and poker.

IMO, harness racing is the single best gambling game on the planet. Changing the qualifying rule eliminates one of its biggest edges.

- Gil Winston

BALMORALREPORT

5, BmIP, \$77,400, T, 2 Year Old Colt & Gelding Stake (Illinois Conceived & Foaled), M, 29.0, 58.3, 1:28.4, 1:58.2, FT

1-Dr Venkman (g, 2, Pizzazzed--Broadway Show, by Broadway Hall), \$4,700 2014 WALKER O-Craig M & Curt L Grummel & Clayton B Arnett & Chili Day Stables. B-Fox Valley Standardbreds. T-Curt Grummel. D-Pat Curtin, \$34,443, Lifetime Record: 3-1-0-1, \$5,300

2-Mr Strata (g, 2, Pizzazzed--Fox Valley Strata, by Vaporize) O-Cynthia Kay Willis. B-Cynthia Kay Willis. T-Nelson Willis. D-Michael Oosting, \$17,028

3-Fear (g, 2, Powerful Emotion--What A Volo, by Supergill), \$7,500 2014 WALKER O-Providence West Inc.. B-Fox Valley Standardbreds. T-Kenny Collier. D-Robert Smolin, \$8,514

Calls: 2, 1Q, 1Q, H, 1H - Finish Order: Powerful Father, Todger, Pastor Clint, Pj Boy, Bands Ariston, Jd Cheese, Wrightwood

To watch the race replay click [here](#)

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